This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Various				
Diabetes; obesity; metabolic disorders	Pigment epithelium- derived factor (PEDF; SERPINF1)	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest that antagonizing PEDF could help treat obesity-induced insulin resistance that contributes to metabolic disease and diabetes. Mice fed a high-fat diet overexpressed <i>Pedf</i> (<i>Serpinf1</i>) mRNA in adipose tissues compared with mice fed a low fat diet. In obese, insulin-resistant mice, a PEDF-neutralizing antibody improved whole-body insulin sensitivity. Next steps include studies to elucidate PEDF signaling mechanisms to create antagonists.	Unpatented; unavailable for licensing	Crowe, S. <i>et al. Cell</i> ; published online July 7, 2009; doi:10.1016/j.cmet.2009.06.001 Contact: Matthew J. Watt, Monash University, Victoria, Australia e-mail: matthew.watt@med.monash.edu.au
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